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INTRODUCTION

Wisconsin Burning 2003 is an annual report of the Wisconsin Fire Prevention Program. Statistics on the number, cause and impact of fires gathered from Wisconsin fire departments are reported here along with some basic analysis of the information and any trends noted. Wisconsin fire information in this report is divided into three main sections, data and analysis of the state as a whole, by county and by Wisconsin Department of Commerce Fire Prevention District. Data includes what caused the fires, where they were located, results such as whether the fire department was needed to put out the fire, injuries and casualties, and how many times children were involved in causing fires.

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) is charged by Wisconsin Statute 101.141 to maintain records of all fires occurring in the state. Fire records are also captured on a national basis by the Department of Homeland Security's US Fire Administration using the National Fire Information Reporting System (NFIRS). NFIRS is a cooperative effort on the part of local fire agencies, state agencies, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to gather nationwide statistics on fires and their causes.

The information contained in this report is submitted by individual fire departments. Some fire departments enter data directly into the NFIRS database and some report via paper forms. Electronic entries contain more specific information than the paper reports. In order to combine these two sources into a single report, only the most general information, as provided on the paper reports, was used from the electronic database. Of Wisconsin's 863 fire departments, 459 (53.2%) reported fire incidents in 2003. Over 11,000 fires were reported, with 943 requiring mutual aid from one or more additional fire departments. In 2003, fires caused 176 civilian injuries, 121 firefighter injuries, 25 civilian deaths, and 3 firefighter deaths. Of the fires reported, 107 were attributable to children under the age of 18.

We hope this information will be useful to fire departments, legislators and other public officials, individuals and the federal government in efforts toward improved fire safety. Fire prevention is a joint endeavor. We wish to thank all of those who gave their time and effort in providing us with fire data.

Additional copies of this publication can be obtained by contacting the Commerce District Fire Prevention Coordinators or by visiting the Commerce website. Contact and website information can be found on the inside <u>back cover</u> of this report.

Introduction 1

2003 WISCONSIN FIRE INCIDENT SUMMARY

This section of *Wisconsin Burning* provides information about fire incidents across the entire state of Wisconsin. Data and charts will compare how fire departments report, where fires occur, types of fires, fires by day and month, fire causes, etc. The following two sections will break out the information by county and by Commerce fire district.

Wisconsin Statute 101.141 requires Commerce to keep records of all fires occurring in the state. Commerce provides paper reporting forms and gives access to the free reporting software that the FEMA provides. Fire Prevention Staff provide assistance to fire departments using the electronic reporting method and encourage departments to report electronically.

How Fire Departments Reported Throughout the State

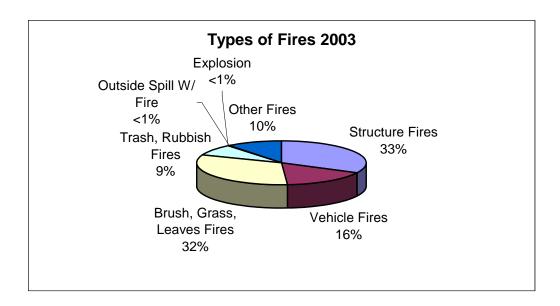
In 2003, about 49% of all fire departments reporting did so electronically. The rest, 51%, reported using paper forms. In 2003, two paper forms were provided by Commerce for fire department use, a long form and a short form. More than 32% of all reporting was done via the short form which requires minimal data. This form was discontinued in 2004 in an effort to gather more detailed and useful data. The long form provided data in a format consistent with the National Fire Information Reporting System 2002 version (NFIRS 4.0) which was also the format used for electronic reporting. Specific breakdowns of 2003 fire incident reporting are provided on the following chart.

Method	Number	Percent
Short Form	150	32%
Long Form	86	19%
Disk	17	4%
Electronically/Email	202	45%
	455	100%

Types of Fires and Actions Taken

Types of Fires Reported in Wisconsin in 2003

Fires are reported in six type categories. In 2003, 3,659 **Structure Fires** and 3,548 burning **Brush, Grass, and Leaves** were reported making up 64.5% of all fires. **Vehicle Fires** and **Trash, Rubbish Fires** combined for another 2,772 fires which along with the **Structure Fires** and burning **Brush, Grass, and Leaves** accounts for 89% of all reported fires. A large number of fires (1,109) were **Not Classified** as to type. The total number of fires reported in 2003 was 11,089.



Actions Taken by Wisconsin Fire Departments in 2003

This table covers the three most common types of actions. The most obvious action is to extinguish the fire, but sometimes the fire has been extinguished before the fire fighters arrive or the need is to remove the hazard. In 2003, of those fires reported to Commerce, 82% were extinguished by the fire department. Most fires required action by the fire department.

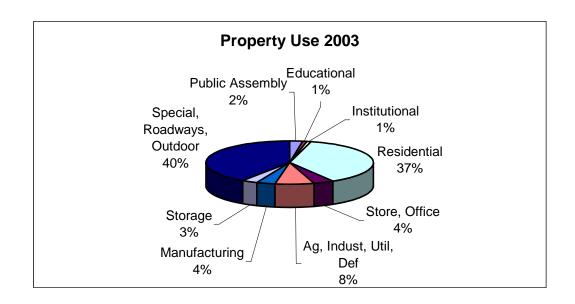
Action Taken	Totals
Extinguished	9049
Investigated Only	1712
Remove Hazard	382

Fires by Property Use

Property Use of Fires Reported in Wisconsin in 2003

The following data reports fires by property uses. For example, in 2003, 345 fires were reported on properties used for storage. Storage properties are all buildings, structures, or areas utilized primarily for the storage or sheltering of goods, merchandise, products, vehicles, or animals. For a definition of the property categories, see Appendix B. In 2003, Wisconsin's greatest number of fires (40%) occurred in **Outdoor Properties and Roadways**. **Residential Properties** accounted for 37% of the total fires.

Fixed Property Use	Totals
Special, Roadways, Outdoor	4497
Residential	4137
Agricultural, Industry, Utility, Defense	846
Store, Office	418
Manufacturing	389
Storage	345
Public Assembly	266
Educational	107
Institutional	85

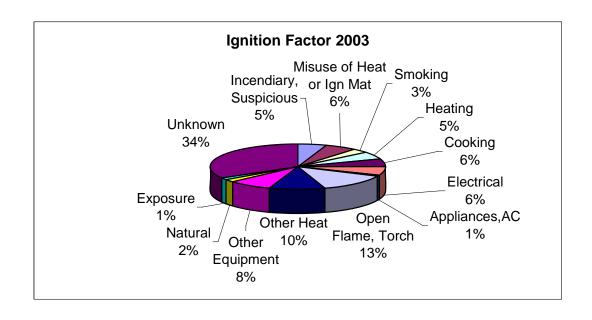


Ignition Factors

Ignition Factors of All Fires Reported in Wisconsin in 2003

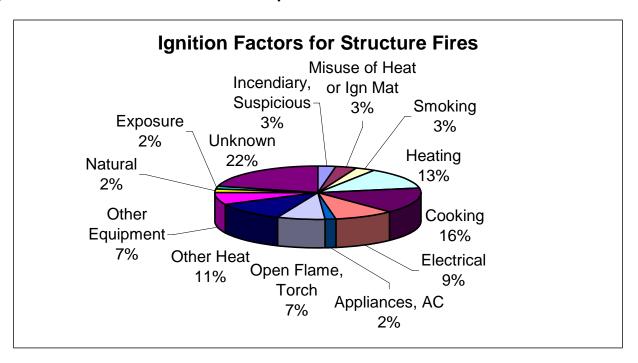
"Ignition Factors" is the term for fire causes. Fire causes are grouped into thirteen categories. A detailed description of these causes can be seen in Appendix B. Wisconsin data indicates that the largest cause of fires is **Unknown**. **Open Flame**, **Torch** is the second largest cause, followed by **Other Heat**.

Ignition Factor	Totals
Unknown	3703
Open Flame, Torch	1438
Other Heat	1153
Other Equipment	881
Electrical Distribution	679
Misuse of Heat or Ignited Material	644
Cooking	636
Incendiary, Suspicious	579
Heating	563
Smoking	356
Natural	221
Exposure	144
Appliances, Air Conditioning	92

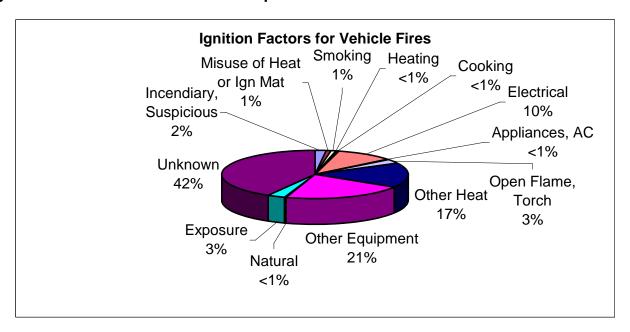


Breakdown of Ignition Factors by Fire Type

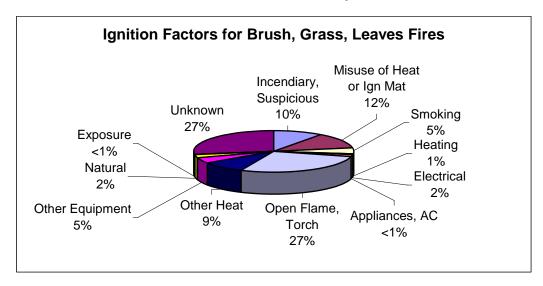
Ignition Factors for Structure Fires Reported in Wisconsin in 2003



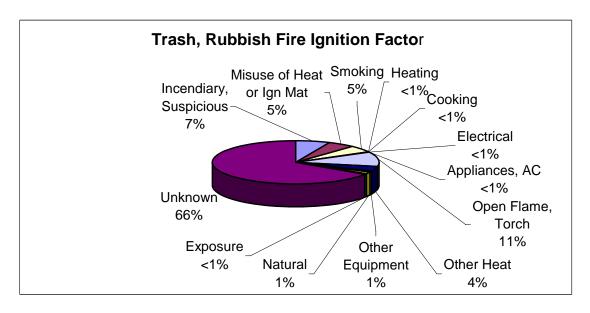
Ignition Factors for Vehicle Fires Reported in Wisconsin in 2003



Ignition Factors for Brush, Grass, Leaves Fires Reported in Wisconsin in 2003



Ignition Factors of Trash Fires Reported in Wisconsin in 2003

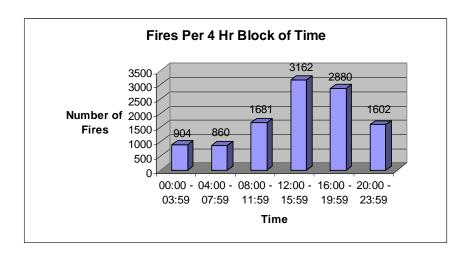


Fires by Time of Day, Month, and Situation

In this section of the report we will look at when and where fires occur.

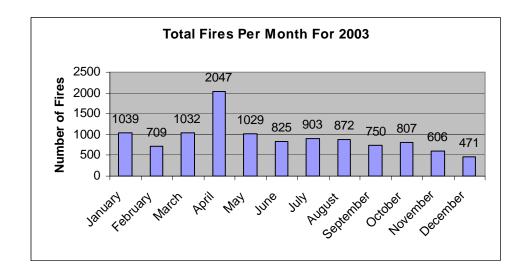
Number of Fires per Time of Day Reported in Wisconsin in 2003

The chart below shows when fires occur in four-hour blocks of time throughout the day. Data reported for Wisconsin in 2003 shows that most fires (54%) start between noon and 8 p.m.

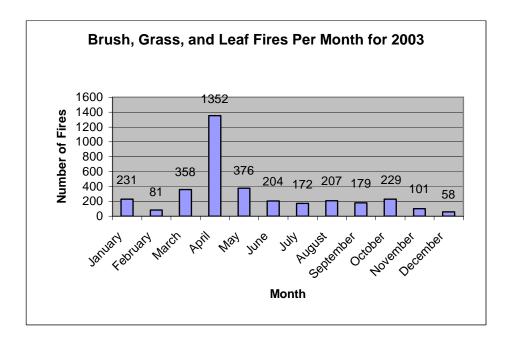


Number of Fires per Month Reported in Wisconsin in 2003

Information in the chart below shows how all fires plot out across the year. The extreme peak in April is due to burning **Brush**, **Grass**, **and Leaves**. This is discussed further on the next page.

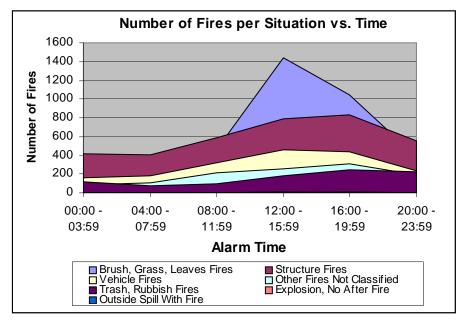


Number of Brush, Grass, Leaves Fires by Month Reported in Wisconsin in 2003 Brush, Grass, and Leaves fires are particularly interesting when shown by month. There is an increase in the spring with an extreme peak in April due to brush and grass being burned.



Fires by Alarm Time and Situation Found Reported in Wisconsin in 2003

The chart below shows the frequency of fires by type of fire and time reported. Note the peak of all types of fires in late afternoon.



2003 FIRE INCIDENTS BY WISCONSIN COUNTY

The following pages list summaries of number and type of fires along with property use and ignition factors reported in 2003 in Wisconsin. Each category is listed by the county the fire occurred in.

Total Fires Per County

County	Total Fires	% of Total State Fires	County	Total Fires	% of Total State Fires
ADAMS	144	1.30%	MARATHON	359	3.23%
ASHLAND	4	0.04%	MARINETTE	179	1.62%
BARRON	133	1.20%	MARQUETTE	75	0.68%
BAYFIELD	71	0.64%	MENOMINEE	0	0.00%
BROWN	689	6.21%	MILWAUKEE	624	5.61%
BUFFALO	65	0.59%	MONROE	127	1.14%
BURNETT	34	0.31%	OCONTO	154	1.39%
CALUMET	104	0.94%	ONEIDA	104	0.94%
CHIPPEWA	98	0.89%	OUTAGAMIE	378	3.41%
CLARK	145	1.31%	OZAUKEE	181	1.63%
COLUMBIA	205	1.85%	PEPIN	53	0.47%
CRAWFORD	30	0.27%	PIERCE	151	1.36%
DANE	325	2.93%	POLK	36	0.32%
DODGE	165	1.49%	PORTAGE	128	1.15%
DOOR	36	0.32%	PRICE	1	0.01%
DOUGLAS	186	1.68%	RACINE	365	3.29%
DUNN	163	1.47%	RICHLAND	23	0.21%
EAU CLAIRE	228	2.06%	ROCK	431	3.89%
FLORENCE	34	0.31%	RUSK	18	0.17%
FOND DU LAC	440	3.97%	ST CROIX	138	1.24%
FOREST	54	0.49%	SAUK	143	1.29%
GRANT	132	1.19%	SAWYER	55	0.50%
GREEN	142	1.28%	SHAWANO	104	0.94%
GREEN LAKE	36	0.32%	SHEBOYGAN	122	1.10%
IOWA	125	1.13%	TAYLOR	51	0.46%
IRON	38	0.35%	TREMPEALEAU	89	0.80%
JACKSON	55	0.50%	VERNON	152	1.37%
JEFFERSON	193	1.74%	VILAS	203	1.83%
JUNEAU	104	0.94%	WALWORTH	202	1.82%
KENOSHA	292	2.63%	WASHBURN	30	0.27%
KEWAUNEE	81	0.73%	WASHINGTON	307	2.77%
LA CROSSE	273	2.46%	WAUKESHA	290	2.62%
LAFAYETTE	85	0.77%	WAUPACA	202	1.82%
LANGLADE	24	0.22%	WAUSHARA	83	0.74%
LINCOLN	55	0.50%	WINNEBAGO	175	1.58%
MANITOWOC	235	2.12%	WOOD	133	1.20%
Total Fires in V	Visconsi	n in 2003:		11089	

How Fire Departments in Each Wisconsin County Reported

In 2003 two paper forms were provided by Commerce for fire department use and departments were encouraged to report electronically by providing the files on disk, in an email, or by directly uploading to the NFIRS database. The two paper forms were a short form and a long form. The short form required minimal data while the long form provided data in a format consistent with the National Fire Information Reporting System 2002 version (NFIRS 4.0). The following chart shows, by county, how fire departments that reported did so.

Form 1		Electronically
_		or Email
^	0	1
0	0	2
0	0	1
3	0	2
2	0	8
0	0	1
0	0	2
1	0	0
1	1	2
0	0	1
1	1	3
1	0	2
1	2	13
4	0	6
1	1	3
1	0	4
0	1	2
0	0	2
1	0	0
2	1	8
1	0	0
1	0	10
1	1	4
1	0	1
3	0	2
1	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	3
3	0	0
1	1	3
1	0	1
3	0	3
0	1	0
1	0	2
0	0	1
4	0	5
	1 0	1 0 0

County	Short Form	Long Form	Disk	Electronically or Email
MARATHON	9	0	0	of Ellian
MARINETTE	9	1	0	2
MARQUETTE	0	1	0	2
MENOMINEE	0	0	0	0
MILWAUKEE	2	0	0	7
MONROE	2	2	0	0
OCONTO	3	3	0	1
ONEIDA	4	2	0	5
OUTAGAMIE	6	5	0	6
OZAUKEE	1	0	2	3
PEPIN	1	1	0	0
PIERCE	1	0	0	2
POLK	1	0	0	1
PORTAGE	0	3	0	3
PRICE	0	0	0	1
RACINE	2	0	2	5
RICHLAND	0	1	0	0
ROCK	0	0	1	6
RUSK	1	0	0	0
SAUK	2	1	0	5
SAWYER	3	2	0	0
SHAWANO	6	2	0	1
SHEBOYGAN	1	1	0	6
ST CROIX	1	0	0	4
TAYLOR	0	2	0	0
TREMPEALEAU	1	1	0	3
VERNON	4	0	0	5
VILAS	1	3	0	1
WALWORTH	1	2	0	6
WASHBURN	1	0	0	0
WASHINGTON	2	3	0	3
WAUKESHA	2	2	0	11
WAUPACA	5	2	0	2
WAUSHARA	4	2	0	3
WINNEBAGO	1	0	1	4
WOOD	0	1	1	7
	150	86	17	206

Types of Fires Reported By Wisconsin County

Fires are reported in six type categories: structure, vehicle, brush/grass/leaves, trash/rubbish, explosion without fire, and other/unclassified. In the table below you can see what types of fires were reported in 2003. You can compare the types of fires reported in each county with the statewide statistics from page three of this report.

County	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Brush, Grass, Leaves Fires	Trash, Rubbish Fires	Explosion, No After Fire	Outside Spill With Fire	Other Fires Not Classified
ADAMS	34	21	77	6	0	0	6
ASHLAND	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
BARRON	29	15	39	3	0	3	44
BAYFIELD	28	11	26	3	0	0	3
BROWN	290	117	80	92	0	0	110
BUFFALO	24	7	31	0	0	0	3
BURNETT	13	4	9	3	0	0	6
CALUMET	47	16	24	1	1	0	14
CHIPPEWA	26	21	46	1	0	0	4
CLARK	68	23	40	6	0	0	9
COLUMBIA	59	49	71	9	1	0	16
CRAWFORD	10	9	6	0	0	0	6
DANE	131	44	91	13	0	0	46
DODGE	46	34	67	16	0	0	3
DOOR	16	6	14	0	0	0	0
DOUGLAS	63	28	70	0	0	0	25
DUNN	44	22	59	18	0	0	20
EAU CLAIRE	59	49	71	12	0	0	37
FLORENCE	16	7	6	0	0	0	6
FOND DU LAC	115	50	196	36	0	0	43
FOREST	38	3	11	0	0	0	1
GRANT	51	20	53	3	0	0	6
GREEN	27	23	68	9	0	0	16
GREEN LAKE	27	0	6	1	0	0	1
IOWA	20	10	48	10	0	0	37
IRON	24	4	6	1	0	0	3
JACKSON	18	10	24	3	0	0	0
JEFFERSON	46	20	64	33	3	0	28
JUNEAU	37	16	44	1	0	0	6
KENOSHA	56	71	62	39	0	0	64
KEWAUNEE	36	10	18	10	0	0	7
LA CROSSE	61	84	51	33	0	0	44
LAFAYETTE	37	13	30	0	0	0	6
LANGLADE	13	7	3	0	0	0	1

County	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Brush, Grass, Leaves Fires	Trash, Rubbish Fires	Explosion, No After Fire	Outside Spill With Fire	Other Fires Not Classified
LINCOLN	16	14	11	0	3	0	11
MANITOWOC	94	28	65	30	0	0	17
MARATHON	142	34	92	26	0	0	64
MARINETTE	67	23	51	4	1	0	33
MARQUETTE	26	12	29	2	0	0	6
MILWAUKEE	193	121	99	141	0	1	67
MONROE	50	11	55	6	0	0	4
OCONTO	61	18	50	13	0	0	11
ONEIDA	40	16	34	9	0	0	6
OUTAGAMIE	169	59	82	40	3	0	26
OZAUKEE	49	28	46	21	0	0	37
PEPIN	18	6	27	0	0	0	1
PIERCE	33	20	67	24	0	0	7
POLK	13	11	10	0	0	0	1
PORTAGE	40	29	37	18	0	0	3
PRICE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
RACINE	119	65	121	35	0	1	24
RICHLAND	7	3	13	0	0	0	0
ROCK	102	109	148	38	3	0	31
RUSK	4	0	10	0	0	0	4
SAUK	46	36	48	7	0	0	6
SAWYER	27	7	11	1	0	0	9
SHAWANO	33	17	34	7	1	0	11
SHEBOYGAN	58	18	28	9	0	0	8
ST CROIX	43	20	62	7	0	1	5
TAYLOR	32	10	6	0	1	0	1
TREMPEALEAU	22	11	44	8	0	0	4
VERNON	44	16	76	4	0	1	10
VILAS	41	6	143	6	0	0	7
WALWORTH	57	20	68	16	0	0	41
WASHBURN	17	3	10	0	0	0	0
WASHINGTON	81	41	128	24	1	1	30
WAUKESHA	65	71	108	33	0	0	13
WAUPACA	63	31	80	6	0	1	21
WAUSHARA	14	20	44	0	1	0	3
WINNEBAGO	33	11	26	11	0	0	4
WOOD	52	18	39	16	1	0	7
MENOMINEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Actions Taken By County

The fire information in the table below shows what actions were reported taken in Wisconsin in 2003.

County	Extinguished	Investigated Only	Remove Hazard
ADAMS	127	11	3
ASHLAND	4	0	0
BARRON	78	20	6
BAYFIELD	61	4	3
BROWN	477	175	37
BUFFALO	61	1	3
BURNETT	31	1	0
CALUMET	81	17	4
CHIPPEWA	88	4	0
CLARK	139	10	3
COLUMBIA	195	34	7
CRAWFORD	27	3	0
DANE	127	55	6
DODGE	154	7	4
DOOR	27	9	0
DOUGLAS	21	0	0
DUNN	161	18	10
EAU CLAIRE	23	4	0
FLORENCE	26	7	0
FOND DU LAC	401	78	16
FOREST	26	23	4
GRANT	129	1	1
GREEN	131	7	3
GREEN LAKE	26	4	4
IOWA	91	21	10
IRON	33	6	0
JACKSON	51	4	0
JEFFERSON	164	17	13
JUNEAU	91	9	1
KENOSHA	185	58	18
KEWAUNEE	77	3	1
LA CROSSE	226	41	6
LAFAYETTE	77	6	0
LANGLADE	23	1	0
LINCOLN	43	10	3
MANITOWOC	202	28	4

County	Extinguished	Investigated Only	Remove Hazard
MARATHON	282	61	13
MARINETTE	131	38	6
MARQUETTE	44	4	0
MILWAUKEE	474	189	9
MONROE	115	10	1
OCONTO	135	11	6
ONEIDA	77	23	4
OUTAGAMIE	285	91	23
OZAUKEE	174	28	6
PEPIN	50	1	1
PIERCE	134	14	3
POLK	34	1	0
PORTAGE	104	28	3
PRICE	1	0	0
RACINE	303	125	17
RICHLAND	23	0	0
ROCK	505	38	4
RUSK	16	3	0
SAUK	122	41	0
SAWYER	46	10	0
SHAWANO	172	10	1
SHEBOYGAN	88	24	6
ST CROIX	129	17	0
TAYLOR	54	3	3
TREMPEALEAU	104	1	0
VERNON	158	9	1
VILAS	223	11	1
WALWORTH	139	46	9
WASHBURN	30	0	0
WASHINGTON	242	46	18
WAUKESHA	310	61	3
WAUPACA	178	11	11
WAUSHARA	80	3	0
WINNEBAGO	57	26	3
WOOD	87	11	3
MENOMINEE	0	0	0

Property Use By County

It is important to know where fires occur or what the property was being used for. In 2003, statistics reported in Wisconsin indicate that most fires occurred in special, roadways, or outdoor areas, followed closely by residential areas.

County	Public Assembly	Educational	Institutional	Residential	Store, Office	Agricultural, Industry, Utility, Defense	Manufacturing	Storage	Special, Roadways, Outdoor
ADAMS	1	0	0	47	1	0	1	0	78
ASHLAND	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
BARRON	1	1	0	51	6	20	4	0	23
BAYFIELD	6	0	0	44	1	1	3	0	14
BROWN	33	1	7	320	33	27	54	11	196
BUFFALO	0	0	0	14	0	20	1	6	24
BURNETT	0	0	0	17	0	3	1	4	6
CALUMET	3	0	1	26	0	31	11	1	27
CHIPPEWA	1	0	0	20	0	13	4	1	54
CLARK	1	0	0	77	1	30	9	0	33
COLUMBIA	1	1	3	54	7	23	11	16	118
CRAWFORD	3	0	0	4	0	10	0	0	13
DANE	6	6	1	81	9	9	4	7	61
DODGE	3	0	0	38	3	13	3	4	101
DOOR	0	0	1	11	4	3	0	0	16
DOUGLAS	0	0	0	13	1	0	1	0	9
DUNN	3	4	0	63	4	10	0	11	94
EAU CLAIRE	3	0	0	17	1	0	1	1	1
FLORENCE	1	0	0	20	1	1	1	0	9
FOND DU LAC	10	4	3	155	30	30	11	11	240
FOREST	6	3	0	28	3	4	3	0	7
GRANT	0	0	0	38	1	37	3	4	48
GREEN	6	0	0	21	7	11	4	7	85
GREEN LAKE	3	0	0	17	0	3	4	0	6
IOWA	1	0	3	26	1	21	6	3	53
IRON	0	3	0	16	1	6	1	4	7
JACKSON	1	0	0	11	0	7	1	3	31
JEFFERSON	3	0	4	60	7	6	6	4	102
JUNEAU	1	0	0	51	4	11	0	1	30
KENOSHA	4	4	1	91	20	6	4	6	88
KEWAUNEE	1	0	0	18	0	9	4	9	40
LA CROSSE	9	4	3	92	9	14	3	4	135
LAFAYETTE	0	0	0	37	0	34	1	0	11
LANGLADE	0	0	0	6	0	6	3	1	3

County	Public Assembly	Educational	Institutional	Residential	Store, Office	Agricultural, Industry, Utility, Defense	Manufacturing	Storage	Special, Roadways, Outdoor
LINCOLN	Assembly ()	0	0	43	4	otility, Deferise	3	1	3
MANITOWOC	11	3	4	92	10	17	10	16	<u> </u>
MARATHON	6	11	4	157	10	46	20	21	75
MARINETTE	-		-			14			
	0	0	0	90 21	0	• • •	13	9	17
MARQUETTE	•	0	0		•	9	0	· ·	
MILWAUKEE MONROE	41	10	13	255	46	4	20	26	258
	6	0	0	46	4	18	3	6	44
OCONTO	3	0	0	73	9	16	11	3	40
ONEIDA	0	1	4	54	9	0	4	0	31
OUTAGAMIE	7	1	4	185	27	16	21	13	118
OZAUKEE	4	4	3	85	10	1	7	4	87
PEPIN	0	0	0	24	0	21	1	1	4
PIERCE	3	4	0	31	1	10	0	7	94
POLK	0	0	0	13	0	7	0	1	14
PORTAGE	1	6	3	54	7	0	1	0	63
PRICE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RACINE	13	3	0	182	10	10	17	13	193
RICHLAND	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	16
ROCK	9	4	7	122	14	16	13	14	344
RUSK	0	0	0	10	0	1	0	0	6
SAUK	4	0	0	53	7	20	1	7	71
SAWYER	1	0	0	31	0	3	3	1	16
SHAWANO	0	1	1	75	17	10	4	6	70
SHEBOYGAN	4	0	0	58	1	9	3	3	40
ST CROIX	1	3	0	47	1	14	3	4	71
TAYLOR	3	3	0	26	1	1	1	10	14
TREMPEALEAU	0	0	0	28	0	17	3	3	55
VERNON	1	0	0	48	0	27	6	6	78
VILAS	6	0	0	44	0	1	3	10	171
WALWORTH	3	3	6	83	11	14	3	6	73
WASHBURN	0	0	1	21	1	3	0	0	1
WASHINGTON	7	3	0	102	4	27	9	3	152
WAUKESHA	9	7	3	151	23	13	9	10	151
WAUPACA	1	1	0	70	9	26	6	7	80
WAUSHARA	1	0	0	37	1	7	3	1	31
WINNEBAGO	0	0	1	36	6	3	4	1	33
WOOD	3	3	0	33	6	11	7	4	34
MENOMINEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Ignition Factors By County

Ignition Factors are the causes of fires. Note: There is a large percentage of **Unknown**. The table below shows fire causes for each county, as reported in Wisconsin in 2003.

County	Incendiary, Suspicious	Misuse of Heat or Ignited Materials	Smoking	Heating	Cooking	Electrical Distribution	Appliances, AC	Open Flame, Torch	Other Heat	Other Equipment	Natural	Exposure	Unknown
ADAMS	6	10	3	11	3	13	1	38	18	6	3	1	26
ASHLAND	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
BARRON	3	23	3	11	7	7	3	1	4	0	1	1	48
BAYFIELD	0	6	1	14	0	3	0	13	6	4	6	0	18
BROWN	30	43	17	30	97	38	3	55	77	47	4	13	233
BUFFALO	1	6	4	4	0	13	1	10	3	3	10	1	9
BURNETT	1	3	0	4	0	0	0	1	3	0	4	1	14
CALUMET	3	7	1	10	3	13	1	9	14	9	1	0	33
CHIPPEWA	0	1	6	6	1	7	0	21	9	9	3	0	34
CLARK	6	26	4	17	1	16	7	9	6	4	13	11	36
COLUMBIA	7	7	16	3	6	14	0	26	68	27	3	13	46
CRAWFORD	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	10	4	0	0	9
DANE	7	7	4	17	17	10	0	27	13	11	9	0	64
DODGE	1	18	0	4	1	10	0	50	18	18	7	4	31
DOOR	1	0	1	4	0	3	0	10	7	0	0	3	6
DOUGLAS	1	1	0	4	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	3	9
DUNN	4	14	7	4	17	10	3	21	17	7	3	0	81
EAU CLAIRE	7	3	0	4	1	1	0	4	0	1	0	0	4
FLORENCE	4	1	0	6	0	4	1	3	6	1	0	0	7
FOND DU LAC	16	48	30	13	36	26	7	68	54	36	9	1	154
FOREST	1	0	0	9	11	10	0	7	3	4	0	0	9
GRANT	0	3	10	4	3	7	0	24	21	13	3	0	44
GREEN	4	1	10	6	0	4	1	30	20	10	0	4	48
GREEN LAKE	6	3	0	4	0	3	0	3	3	0	0	0	14
IOWA	27	6	1	1	1	7	0	14	10	7	3	1	46
IRON	0	6	0	7	0	3	0	3	1	0	1	0	17
JACKSON	1	10	3	4	1	6	0	6	3	9	0	1	11
JEFFERSON	11	4	1	9	9	14	3	21	20	11	1	0	87
JUNEAU	9	14	1	16	1	14	0	6	7	14	1	1	14
KENOSHA	4	3	9	3	4	10	0	26	14	18	1	3	128
KEWAUNEE	0	1	3	1	1	3	1	13	9	7	9	0	33
LA CROSSE	14	10	6	9	11	13	1	26	30	18	1	0	132
LAFAYETTE	0	13	3	3	1	9	1	4	9	10	4	3	26
LANGLADE	0	1	0	1	0	6	1	1	0	0	1	0	11
LINCOLN	0	0	0	6	6	4	4	4	7	1	1	1	20
MANITOWOC	7	23	9	18	7	21	0	43	17	18	3	1	67

County	Incendiary,	Misuse of Heat or	Smoking	Heating	Cooking	Electrical		Open Flame,		Other	Natural	Exposure	Unknown
	Suspicious	Ignited Materials	_			Distribution	AC	Torch	Heat	Equipment	_	_	
MARATHON	28	17	9	21	14	23	4	46	18	30	7	6	132
MARINETTE	0	14	3	23	1	17	4	9	17	7	3	3	78
MARQUETTE	1	0	1	4	1	7	0	13	9	1	1	0	9
MILWAUKEE	20	9	33	6	87	31	0	44	41	63	4	21	307
MONROE	14	7	3	6	4	16	4	17	17	1	6	0	31
OCONTO	9	16	0	18	1	16	0	26	7	4	6	0	51
ONEIDA	1	1	1	9	11	4	0	10	20	0	1	1	40
OUTAGAMIE	30	34	18	7	24	20	4	57	50	24	3	10	54
OZAUKEE	6	13	4	9	21	7	6	27	23	11	3	1	75
PEPIN	3	24	3	3	1	7	0	1	4	1	1	0	3
PIERCE	0	1	3	1	9	4	0	21	30	16	6	0	60
POLK	0	7	4	3	1	4	0	0	4	7	0	1	3
PORTAGE	4	0	3	3	11	6	4	7	17	14	3	0	61
PRICE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RACINE	10	11	6	14	74	14	3	58	64	30	14	6	125
RICHLAND	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	14
ROCK	10	3	26	9	27	17	1	91	51	83	3	0	223
RUSK	0	3	0	4	0	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	6
SAUK	9	7	4	6	7	16	0	23	24	23	7	0	38
SAWYER	7	10	0	6	0	9	0	4	1	4	0	0	14
SHAWANO	10	14	3	17	3	11	3	20	34	10	6	0	54
SHEBOYGAN	4	6	6	9	14	4	1	16	17	7	0	4	30
ST CROIX	3	3	4	10	1	1	0	17	7	26	3	0	71
TAYLOR	1	4	3	6	6	4	1	1	3	1	0	0	28
TREMPEALEAU	4	10	4	1	0	3	0	27	14	16	7	0	20
VERNON	3	33	0	17	0	13	0	26	18	14	6	1	38
VILAS	137	4	3	11	3	4	0	23	11	3	1	4	31
WALWORTH	3	4	17	3	14	11	0	20	23	6	3	3	94
WASHBURN	0	1	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	17
WASHINGTON	36	13	6	17	10	16	1	58	21	23	3	0	104
WAUKESHA	20	7	21	7	16	20	3	71	36	51	6	6	111
WAUPACA	4	9	3	17	4	17	3	41	28	26	1	0	47
WAUSHARA	3	17	1	6	0	10	0	14	6	4	1	0	20
WINNEBAGO	0	3	4	1	10	4	1	17	7	23	1	0	11
WOOD	9	4	3	3	3	9	1	16	9	10	0	4	31
MENOMINEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Number of Injuries, Deaths, and Fires Attributed to Children

The most important goal for fire safety is the prevention of injuries and deaths due to fires. The following table shows the number of injuries and deaths due to fires reported in Wisconsin in 2003. Since children who start fires are a major concern, that data is included in this table.

County	Injuries	Deaths	Attrib to Children
ADAMS	1	1	5
ASHLAND	0	0	0
BARRON	0	0	4
BAYFIELD	0	0	2
BROWN	26	4	8
BUFFALO	1	0	0
BURNETT	0	0	0
CALUMET	2	0	0
CHIPPEWA	0	0	0
CLARK	3	0	1
COLUMBIA	5	1	0
CRAWFORD	0	0	0
DANE	12	0	6
DODGE	2	0	2
DOOR	0	0	0
DOUGLAS	0	0	0
DUNN	2	0	0
EAU CLAIRE	0	0	0
FLORENCE	3	1	0
FOND DU LAC	8	1	4
FOREST	4	0	2
GRANT	3	1	1
GREEN	1	0	3
GREEN LAKE	0	0	1
IOWA	4	0	0
IRON	2	2	0
JACKSON	1	0	0
JEFFERSON	6	0	1
JUNEAU	2	3	2
KENOSHA	2	0	2
KEWAUNEE	5	2	0
LA CROSSE	9	0	1
LAFAYETTE	0	0	0
LANGLADE	0	0	0
LINCOLN	1	0	0
MANITOWOC	12	1	1

County	Injuries	Deaths	Attrib to Children
MARATHON	12	0	5
MARINETTE	0	0	2
MARQUETTE	0	0	1
MILWAUKEE	19	1	4
MONROE	3	0	4
OCONTO	5	3	5
ONEIDA	1	0	0
OUTAGAMIE	10	0	7
OZAUKEE	3	0	3
PEPIN	1	0	2
PIERCE	0	1	1
POLK	0	0	0
PORTAGE	7	2	0
PRICE	0	0	0
RACINE	7	0	1
RICHLAND	1	0	0
ROCK	7	2	4
RUSK	0	0	0
ST CROIX	1	0	2
SAUK	0	0	2
SAWYER	1	0	0
SHAWANO	5	0	1
SHEBOYGAN	2	0	1
TAYLOR	2	0	0
TREMPEALEAU	1	0	1
VERNON	0	0	1
VILAS	6	0	0
WALWORTH	5	0	4
WASHBURN	0	0	0
WASHINGTON	12	0	7
WAUKESHA	11	1	2
WAUPACA	9	0	0
WAUSHARA	8	0	0
WINNEBAGO	2	0	1
WOOD	39	1	0
MENOMINEE	0	0	0

2003 FIRE INCIDENTS BY COMMERCE FIRE DISTRICT

This section of *Wisconsin Burning* is organized by Department of Commerce Fire Prevention district. A <u>map</u> of the Commerce Fire Prevention Districts can be found on the inside of the back cover.

The map provides the names and contact information for the five Fire Prevention Coordinators who cover the state, as well as information for contacting the central office for ordering Fire Prevention supplies and for asking questions about incident reporting and NFIRS.

Commerce Fire District One

Commerce Fire District One is comprised of eleven counties in the northernmost part of the state (see map on inside of back cover). Fire departments in District One reported a total of 781 fires for 2003. This district accounted for 7% of the total fires reported in Wisconsin for 2003. District One fire departments reported five civilian injuries and five firefighter injuries, as well as two civilian deaths and zero firefighter deaths. The number of fires in District One attributed to children was four.

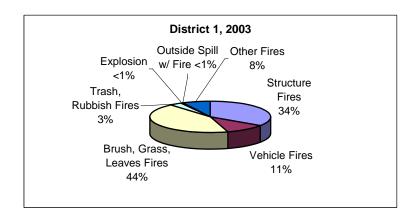
Number of Fire Departments That Reported in District One

District One had 46% of fire departments that reported fire incidents to Commerce, compared to 53% for the state.

County	Number Reported	Number of Depts	Percent
BAYFIELD	10	13	77%
ONEIDA	11	19	58%
IRON	4	7	57%
BURNETT	4	8	50%
LINCOLN	2	4	50%
ASHLAND	3	7	43%
SAWYER	5	12	42%
VILAS	5	12	42%
DOUGLAS	7	19	37%
WASHBURN	1	5	20%
PRICE	1	8	13%
TOTAL	53	114	46%
		State Percent	53%

Types of Fires Reported in District One in 2003

District One had more **Brush**, **Grass**, **and Leaves Fires** than other types, followed by **Structure Fires**. This is similar to Districts Two, Four, and Five.



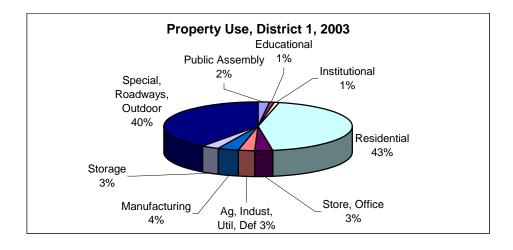
Actions Taken in District One in 2003

Most fires in District One were extinguished, which is consistent with the statewide data.

Actions Taken	District Nums	District %	State %
Extinguished	570	88%	82%
Investigated Only	65	10%	15%
Remove Hazard	11	2%	3%

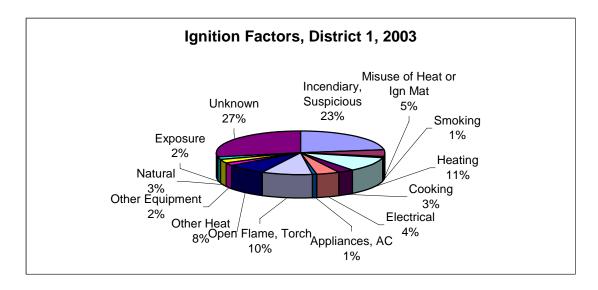
Property Use of Reported Fires in District One in 2003

District One also mirrored the statewide numbers in this category. Most fires reported in 2003 occurred in either **Residential Properties** or in the **Special, Roadways, Outdoor** category. However, unlike statewide totals, District One had **Residential Fires** outnumbering **Special, Roadways, Outdoor Fires**. These two property uses accounted for 83% of the fires in 2003 for District One.



Ignition Factors of Reported Fires in District One in 2003

The percentage of **Unknown** (27%) is lower than the statewide statistic of 34% for Ignition Factor. The number of **Incendiary**, **Suspicious Fires** (23%) is much higher than the statewide percentage. Most of those fires were **Brush**, **Grass**, **and Leaves Fires** that occurred in the spring. The next largest category of factors is **Heating** which makes up 11% of the fires in District One, followed by **Open Flame**, **Torch** which accounts for 10%. District One does not follow the statewide trend where **Open Flame**, **Torch** and **Other Heat** are the second and third most frequent causes of fires.



Commerce Fire District Two

Commerce Fire District Two is comprised of fifteen counties in the west central part of the state (see map on inside back cover). Fire departments in District Two reported a total of 1,696 fires for 2003. This district accounted for 15% of the total fires reported in Wisconsin for 2003. District Two fire departments reported nine civilian injuries and thirteen firefighter injuries, as well as one civilian death and zero firefighter deaths. The number of fires in District Two attributed to children was eleven.

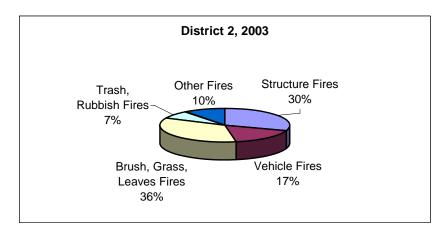
Number of Fire Departments That Reported in District Two

District Two had 45% of the fire departments that reported fire incidents to Commerce, compared to 53% for the state. District Two had the lowest percent reporting of the five districts. However, La Crosse County ranks in the top three reporting counties in the state.

County	Number Reported	Number of Depts	Percent
LA CROSSE	7	8	88%
DUNN	5	7	71%
ST CROIX	5	8	63%
CHIPPEWA	6	11	55%
BUFFALO	3	6	50%
EAU CLAIRE	3	6	50%
PEPIN	2	4	50%
CLARK	6	13	46%
BARRON	4	10	40%
TREMPEALEAU	5	13	38%
JACKSON	3	8	38%
PIERCE	3	9	33%
TAYLOR	2	7	29%
RUSK	1	5	20%
POLK	2	13	15%
TOTAL	57	128	45%
		State Percent	53%

Types of Fires Reported in District Two in 2003

District Two was similar to Districts One, Four, and Five in that District Two had more **Brush, Grass, and Leaves Fires** than **Structure Fires**.



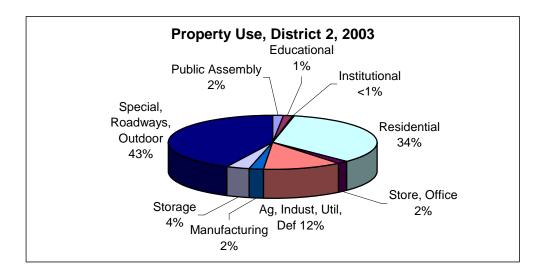
Actions Taken in District Two in 2003

Eighty-eight percent of the fires in District Two were extinguished, which is similar to the state's 82%.

Actions Taken	District Nums	District %	State %
Extinguished	1349	88%	82%
Investigated Only	145	10%	15%
Remove Hazard	34	2%	3%

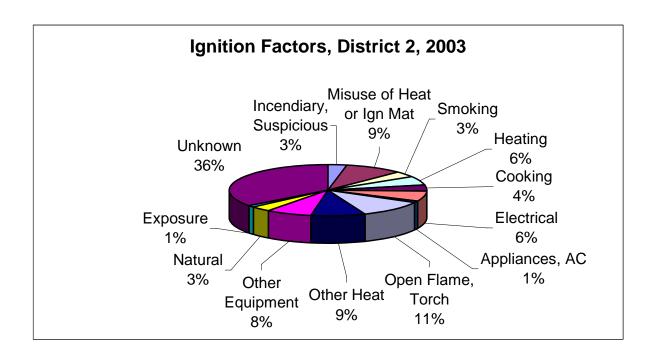
Property Use of Reported Fires in District Two in 2003

District Two mirrored the statewide numbers in this category. Most fires reported in 2003 occurred in the **Special**, **Roadways**, **Outdoor** category or **Residential Properties**, followed by **Agriculture**, **Industry**, **Utility**, **and Defense Properties**.



Ignition Factors of Reported Fires in District Two in 2003

The statistics for Ignition Factor for District Two follow the trend of fire causes throughout the state with **Unknown** (36%) just slightly higher than the 34% statewide trend. The second largest category of factors is **Open Flame**, **Torch**, which makes up 11% of the fires in District Two. Tied for third are **Other Heat** and **Misuse of Heat or Ignited Materials at 9% each**.



Commerce Fire District Three

Commerce Fire District Three is comprised of eighteen counties in the northeast and east central part of the state (see map inside back cover). District Three departments reported a total of 3,069 fires for 2003. These account for 27.6% of the total fires reported in Wisconsin for 2003. Departments in this district reported ninety-three civilian injuries and forty-four firefighter injuries. They also reported thirteen civilian deaths and one firefighter death. Thirty-one fires were attributed to children.

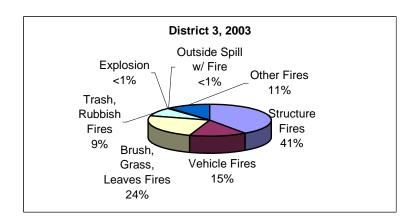
Number of Fire Departments That Reported in District Three

District Three tied with District Five for the largest percent of fire departments that reported statistics: 58%, compared to 53% for the state.

County	Num of FDs that Reported	Num of Fire Depts	Percent
BROWN	14	18	78%
OUTAGAMIE	17	22	77%
MANITOWOC	14	21	67%
MARINETTE	12	18	67%
WAUPACA	9	14	64%
SHAWANO	9	15	60%
MARATHON	13	23	57%
LANGLADE	5	9	56%
PORTAGE	6	11	55%
CALUMET	5	10	50%
DOOR	5	10	50%
KEWAUNEE	3	6	50%
WOOD	9	18	50%
WINNEBAGO	6	13	46%
FLORENCE	2	5	40%
OCONTO	7	18	39%
FOREST	3	8	38%
MENOMINEE	0	1	0%
TOTAL	139	240	58%
		State Percent	53%

Types of Fires Reported in District Three in 2003

District Three was consistent with the statewide trends as far as **Structure Fires**, **Brush, Grass, and Leaves Fires**, and **Vehicle Fires** occurring the most. Interestingly, District Three is the only district where **Structure Fires** outnumber **Brush, Grass, and Leaves Fires**.



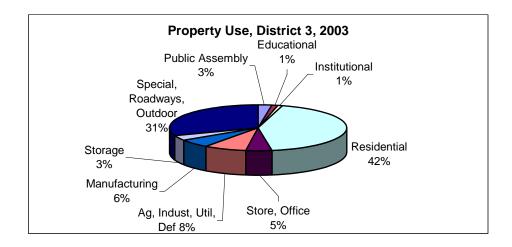
Actions Taken in District Three in 2003

District Three was consistent with statewide findings in that the majority of actions taken on fire calls were to extinguish the fire.

Actions Taken	District Nums	District %	State %
Extinguished	2367	78%	82%
Investigated Only	552	18%	15%
Remove Hazard	120	4%	3%

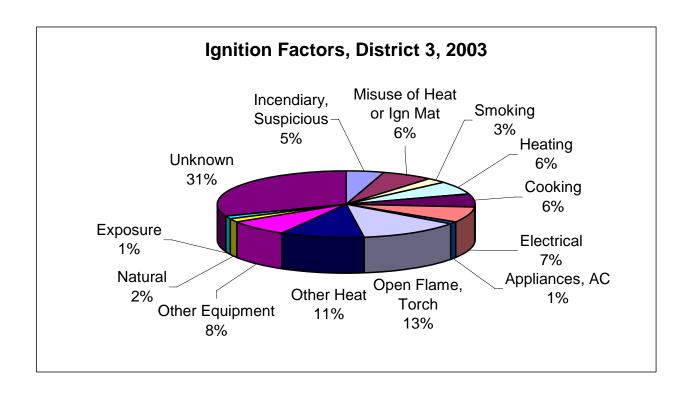
Property Use of Reported Fires in District Three in 2003

Most fires in District Three occurred on **Residential Property**. Statewide, most fires occurred on **Special**, **Roadway**, **Outdoor Property**.



Ignition Factors of Reported Fires in District Three in 2003

The percentage of Unknown (31%) is slightly lower than the statewide statistic of 34%. The second largest category of factors in District Two is Open Flame, Torch, which makes up 13% of the fires, the same as for statewide.



Commerce Fire District Four

Commerce Fire District Four is comprised of twelve counties in the southeastern part of the state (see map inside back cover). District Four departments reported a total of 3,612 fires for 2003, which is 32.5% of the total fires reported in Wisconsin for 2003. Forty-eight civilian injuries and thirty-nine firefighter injuries were reported, along with five civilian deaths and zero firefighter deaths. Children were involved in thirty-five fires.

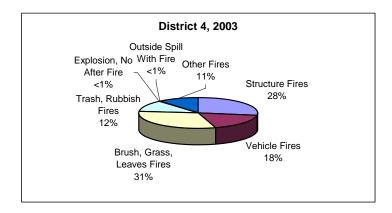
Number of Fire Departments That Reported in District Four

District Four had a slightly higher percentage of fire departments that reported statistics (55%) than the number statewide (53%).

County	Number Reported	Number of Depts	Percent
FOND DU LAC	14	19	74%
ROCK	7	10	70%
OZAUKEE	6	9	67%
RACINE	9	14	64%
DODGE	13	21	62%
WASHINGTON	8	13	62%
WALWORTH	9	17	53%
MILWAUKEE	9	17	53%
WAUKESHA	15	30	50%
KENOSHA	5	11	45%
JEFFERSON	5	11	45%
SHEBOYGAN	8	24	33%
TOTAL	108	196	55%
		State Percent	53%

Types of Fires Reported in District Four in 2003

District Four was also consistent with the statewide trends as far as **Brush**, **Grass**, and **Leaves Fires** and **Structure Fires** occurring the most. Like Districts One, Two, and Five, District Four had more **Brush**, **Grass**, **Leaves Fires** than **Structure Fires**.



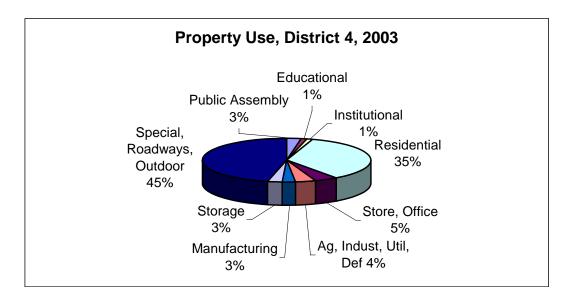
Actions Taken in District Four in 2003

District Four reported that the vast majority of its fire calls required action to extinguish fires.

Actions Taken	District Nums	District %	State %
Extinguished	2825	79%	82%
Investigated Only	646	18%	15%
Remove Hazard	109	3%	3%

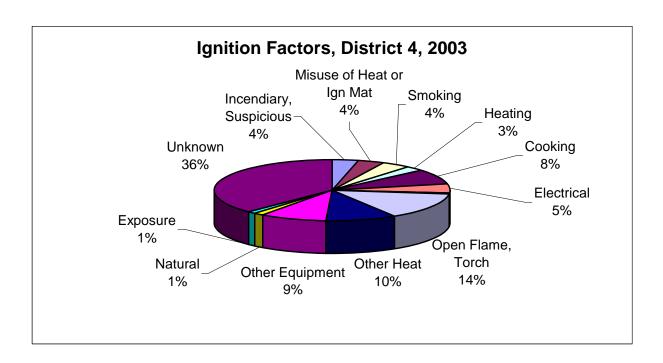
Property Use of Reported Fires in District Four in 2003

District Four was consistent with the statewide trend in this category. Most fires reported in 2003 occurred in **Special, Roadways, Outdoor** properties and in **Residential** areas.



Ignition Factors of Reported Fires in District Four in 2003

The statistics for Ignition Factor for District Four are consistent with statewide findings with **Unknown** (36%) just slightly higher than the 34% statewide trend. **Open Flame, Torch** is the second largest category (14%) of the fire causes in District Four.



Commerce Fire District Five

Commerce Fire District Five is comprised of sixteen counties in the central and southwestern part of the state (see map inside back cover). District Five departments reported a total of 1,931 fires for 2003. These account for 17.4% of the total fires reported in Wisconsin for 2003. District departments reported twenty-one civilian injuries and seventeen firefighter injuries. They also reported four civilian deaths and two firefighter deaths. Children caused twenty-six fires.

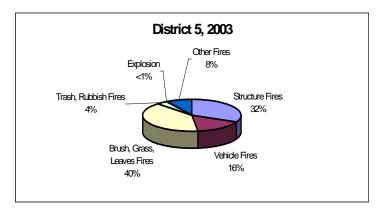
Number of Fire Departments That Reported in District Five

District Five tied with District Three for the largest percent of fire departments that reported statistics: 58%, compared to 53% for the state. Crawford and Vernon counties are in the top three reporting counties in the state.

County	Number Reported	Number of Depts	Percent
CRAWFORD	5	6	83%
VERNON	9	11	82%
GREEN	6	8	75%
ADAMS	4	6	67%
DANE	17	26	65%
GRANT	12	20	60%
WAUSHARA	9	10	60%
SAUK	8	14	57%
IOWA	6	11	55%
COLUMBIA	7	13	54%
JUNEAU	5	11	45%
GREEN LAKE	3	7	43%
LAFAYETTE	4	11	36%
MONROE	4	11	36%
MARQUETTE	3	10	30%
RICHLAND	1	4	25%
TOTAL	103	179	58%
		State Percent	53%

Types of Fires Reported in District Five in 2003

District Four also followed the statewide trend for types of fires as far as **Structure Fires** and **Brush, Grass, and Leaves Fires** occurring the most. Like in Districts One, Two, and Four, **Brush, Grass, and Leaves Fires** occurred more often in this district than **Structure Fires**.



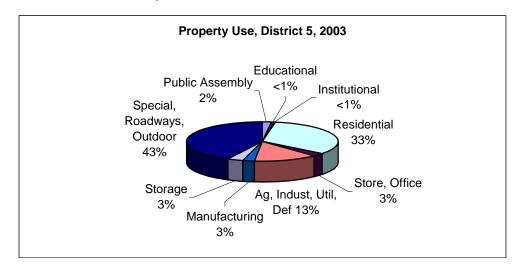
Actions Taken in District Five in 2003

District Five was similar to the rest of the state where the majority of fire calls required extinguishing of a fire.

Actions Taken	District Nums	District %	State %
Extinguished	1562	86%	82
Investigated Only	219	12%	15%
Remove Hazard	38	2%	3%

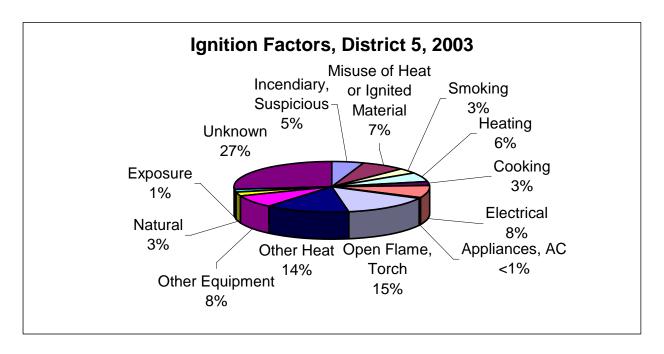
Property Use of Reported Fires in District Five in 2003

District Five had reported percentages very close to the state percentages in this category. Most fires reported in 2003 occurred in the **Special, Roadways, Outdoor** category or in **Residential Properties**.



Ignition Factors of Reported Fires in District Five in 2003

The percentage of **Unknown** (27%) is lower than the statewide statistic of 34%. The next largest category of factors is **Open Flame**, **Torch**, which makes up 15% of the fires in District Five. These rankings are consistent with statewide rankings. Also, District Five ties District One for having the lowest percentage of **Unknown** fire causes.



Appendix A

2003 Wisconsin Fire Service Facts

Fire Departments - 863

- 36 departments are fully paid all personnel are on the payroll
- 97 departments are part paid a few personnel are full time, paid; others are paid on call; others are volunteer
- 712 departments are completely volunteer
- One department is affiliated with one of the above categories
- 12 departments are with full-time federal, state, or military facilities
- Five departments are private industrial fire brigades

Firefighters – 20,671

- Paid departments average 58 firefighters
- Part paid departments average 36 firefighters
- Volunteer departments average 20 firefighters

Fire Inspectors – 3,325

- Paid departments average 19 inspectors
- Part paid departments average six inspectors
- Volunteer departments average two inspectors

Appendix A 36

Appendix B

Definitions For Terms Used In This Report

Ignition Factor Definitions Used In This Report	
Cause Category	Definition
Incendiary/Suspicious	Fire deliberately set or suspicious circumstances
Misuse of Ignited Materials	Heat source from material used for unintended purpose
Smoking	Cigarettes, cigars, and pipes as accidental heat of ignition
Heating	Includes central heating, fixed and portable local heating units, fireplaces and chimneys, or water heaters as source of heat
Cooking	Includes stoves, ovens, fixed, and portable warming units, deep fat fryers, open grills as source of heat
Electrical Distribution	Includes wiring, transformers, meter boxes, power switching gear, outlets, cords, plugs, lighting fixtures as source of heat
Appliances	Includes televisions, radios, phonographs, dryers, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, hand tools, electric blankets, irons, electric razors, can openers, dehumidifiers, water cooling devices, air conditioners, refrigeration equipment as source of heat
Open Flame, Spark	Includes torches, candles, matches, lighters, open fire, ember, ash, rekindled fire, backfire from internal combustion engine as source of heat
Other Heat	Includes fireworks, explosives, heat or spark from friction, molten material, hot material, all other fires caused by heat from fuel-powered objects, heat from electrical equipment arcing or overloading, heat from hot objects not covered by above groups
Other Equipment	Includes special equipment (radar, x-ray, computer, telephone, transmitters, vending machine, office machine, pumps, printing press), processing equipment (furnace, kiln, other industrial machines), service, maintenance equipment (incinerator, elevator), separate motor or generator, vehicle in a structure, unspecified equipment
Natural	Caused by the Sun's heat, spontaneous ignition, chemicals, lightning, or static discharge
Exposure	Caused by heat spreading from another hostile fire
Unknown	Cause of fire undetermined or not reported

Property Use Definitions Used In This Report		
Property	Definition	
Category		
Public Assembly	Places for the congregation or gathering of people for amusement, recreation, social, religious, patriotic, civil, travel, and similar purposes. Characterized by potential presence of crowds	
Educational	Any school, college, or university including nursery schools (on commercial property or residential property) and kindergartens	
Institutional	Health care, detention, and correction properties	
Residential	Property in which sleeping accommodations are provided for normal living purposes	
Store, Office	All markets, buildings, or structures for the display, sale, repair, or service of merchandise	
Agriculture Basic Industry, Utility, Defense	Agriculture, forestry, mining industries, mineral products, utilities, laboratories, nuclear plants, communication facilities, and national defense sites	
Manufacturing	Properties where there is mechanical or chemical transformation of inorganic or organic substances into new products. Also includes processing, assembling, mixing, packing, finishing or decorating, repairing, and similar operations.	
Storage	Storage properties are all buildings, structures, or areas utilized primarily for the storage or sheltering of goods, merchandise, products, vehicles, or animals	
Special, Roadways, Outdoor	Mainly outdoor properties such as signs, fences, and poles. Also includes construction, unoccupied property, bridges, shelters, outbuildings, water areas, railroad property, and roadways	

Fire Prevention Coordinators District Map